

Mansfield Parks Advisory Committee
Minutes of September 1, 2010
Acting Secretary Eric Kruger
DRAFT

Present: Sue Harrington, Tom Harrington, Julianna Barrett, Norma Lomonaco, Ethan Avery, Eric Kruger and Jennifer Kaufman

The Meeting was held at the Mansfield Community Center and called to order at 7:30.

I. Old Business

- A. Minutes from June were unanimously approved.

II. New Business

A. 2010/2011 Meeting Schedule

- 1. The committee agreed to hold meetings on the first Wednesday of every month through June 2011.

B. 2010/2011 Committee Priorities

- 1. Continue monthly reviews of Management Plans.
- 2. Continue to develop discussions and plans for a future Nature Center perhaps to be located at the Moss Sanctuary.
- 3. Continue Stewardship efforts through Park Assignments to individual PAC members as listed below (Jennifer looking for old "inspection forms" to assist in thorough reviews):
 - a. Tom and Sue Harrington – Merrow Meadow & Shelter Falls
 - b. Ethan Avery – School House Brook & Dunhamtown Forest
 - c. Eric Kruger – Sawmill Brook & Eagleville Preserve
 - d. Al Montoya – 50 Foot Preserve & Moss Sanctuary
 - e. Michelle Baughman – River Park
 - f. Julianna Barrett – Dorwart Preserve
 - g. Norma Lomonaco – Mt. Hope Park
 - h. Jennifer Kaufman – Old Spring Hill Field
- 4. Review and update the PAC Charge
 - a. The committee agreed to have Jennifer revise the PAC charge to align more closely with the draft charge written by the committee in the spring of 2010.
 - b. The committee agreed to reorganize the PAC to consist of 5 permanent members and 3 alternate members.

C. Updates

- 1. Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Grant has been awarded for a trail feasibility study to build a Universal Access Trail around Bicentennial Pond. This study will kick-off in the spring of 2011.

2. Commonfields Update – Online trail guide and signage are nearly complete. Jennifer is also working with the neighbor to finalize the right-of-way plans.
3. WHIP – Planting 30 shrubs at Old Spring Hill Field, and 10 at Eagleville and Mt. Hope.
4. Greenways Award – Congratulations to the Town of Mansfield and all those who contribute to the preservation and maintenance of open space for earning this award from the State of Connecticut.
5. Dorwart Preserve – The trails were marked during a June PAC meeting and an Eagle Scout has volunteered to build a bridge over the creek leading to Lyons Field.
6. TLGV Grant for Moss Sanctuary – Three new bridges have been built thanks to some volunteers and the Mansfield Mustangs group who also marked trails this summer. A new rock bridge is in the planning stages by the same group of volunteers.
7. Torrey Property – Trail guide development is in progress. The “high and low roads” have been blazed. Trail guides are also in progress for Dorwart and Lyons Field.
8. Walking Weekend – PAC sponsoring 3 events:
 - a. October 9th Sue and Ethan hosting a scavenger hunt at Dunhamtown Forest.
 - b. October 17th Aquatic study at Moss Sanctuary.
 - c. October 24th School House Brook Marsh walk by Tom and Sue. Two more PAC volunteers needed please contact Sue if interested.
9. Celebrate Mansfield Weekend – PAC is hosting tours of the Moss Sanctuary on September 11 (same day as Know Your Town Fair).

D. Adjournment

1. The next PAC meeting is scheduled for October 6th at 6 pm at Old Spring Hill Field (meet in MMS far parking lot closest to Spring Hill Rd.) to discuss its management plan. After the hike we will return to the Mansfield Community Center to complete the plan.
2. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric A. Kruger, Acting Secretary